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Reply to Office action of Feb. 12, 2004

Amdt. dated May 14, 2004

31055679

Serial No. 09/645,386 Docket No. AUS920000360US1 Firm No. 0072.0032

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicants amend claims 4, 24, and 42 to depend from pending claims 1, 21, and 39 so they no longer depend from canceled claims. Applicants submit that this amendment overcomes the indefiniteness (35 U.S.C. §112, par. 2) rejection and removes this grounds of rejection from the Appeal.

Applicants request the Examiner to enter this amendment because it does not raise issues that would require further searching and because this Amendment will simplify issues for appeal by removing the indefiniteness rejection.

Upon entering this amendment, Applicants further request the Examiner to withdraw the indefiniteness rejection (35 U.S.C. §112, par. 2) of claims 4, 24, and 42 in the Examiner response to the Appeal Brief applicants intend to file.

The attorney of record invites the Examiner to contact him at \$10) 553-7977 if the Examiner believes such contact would advance the prosecution of the case.

Dated: May 14, 2004

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